



## Frequently Asked Questions Regarding the Amended NLC Residency Rule:

*Rule 402(2) A multistate licensee who changes primary state of residence to another party state shall apply for a multistate license in the new party state within 60 days. (Effective 1/2/2024)*

- 1. I have a Tennessee multistate license. I changed my primary state of residence from Tennessee to South Carolina in early 2023. How does this rule pertain to me?**

The rule pertains to licensees who changed their primary state of residence from one compact state to another compact state after Jan 2, 2024. Since your relocation occurred prior to that date, you are under the previous rule. The previous rule required you to apply for a license by endorsement in your new state of residency upon relocation. If you have not applied, you must do so as soon as possible. Once your multistate license is issued by South Carolina, it replaces the license issued by Tennessee, which becomes deactivated.

- 2. Does this rule mean that I need to be issued the new license in a new state of residency within 60 days?**

No. The rule requires that a nurse apply for a new license in a new primary state of residence within 60 days of relocating.

- 3. Which application do I need to complete when relocating to another state?**

If you are relocating and therefore changing your primary state of residence, you must complete the application for licensure by endorsement in the new state within 60 days of relocating. You will find the application on that board of nursing's website.

- 4. I am a travel nurse with an Ohio compact license and my primary state of residence is Ohio. I will be taking a 13-week travel assignment in Florida. Then I will be returning to Ohio. Does this new rule mean that I must apply for a Florida license?**

No. In your example, you are not relocating to Florida as a permanent change of primary state of residence. Rather, your time in Florida is temporary and you are maintaining Ohio as your primary state of residence. You would simply practice in Florida under your Ohio compact license. This rule would not apply to your situation.

- 5. I am a resident of Virginia with a Virginia compact license. I am relocating and changing my primary state of residence to Pennsylvania. However, Pennsylvania is in the process of implementing the NLC and the state is not yet issuing compact licenses. How does this new rule apply to me and what steps should I take?**

Since an NLC implementation date is not yet known in Pennsylvania, we suggest that you apply for a Pennsylvania single state license (by completing the licensure by endorsement application) upon relocating. Once Pennsylvania completes implementation of the NLC and begins to issue compact licenses, you then can apply to upgrade your Pennsylvania single state license to a multistate license.

- 6. Will I need to show any proof of residency once I relocate and apply for a new license in the new state?**

Yes. You should be prepared with the appropriate evidence of residency at the time you complete the application for licensure by endorsement. Most states will accept that state's driver's license or state ID as acceptable proof of residency. The instructions to your application will indicate which legal documents are acceptable.



- 7. I am relocating from Arizona to Tennessee. I have an Arizona compact license. I understand that I am required to apply for license by endorsement with Tennessee Board of Nursing within 60 days of relocating to Tennessee. Since I don't know how long Tennessee will take to process my license application, how long may I continue to practice in Tennessee under my Arizona compact license?**

You may practice in Tennessee under your Arizona multistate license until your Tennessee compact license is issued. However, if your Arizona compact license expires before your Tennessee compact license is issued, Arizona will not renew your license because you are no longer an Arizona resident. As you are planning your move to Tennessee, if you see that your Arizona compact license will expire in the next several months, it may be wise to renew it before you leave Arizona.

- 8. I am a nurse with a multistate license and residency in Florida (a compact state). I accepted a permanent position in Oklahoma (a compact state) which will become my new primary state of residence. I will relocate and rent an apartment in Oklahoma. When does the 60-day timeframe begin which requires me to apply for an Oklahoma multistate license?**

The 60-days starts on the date you moved into the apartment in Oklahoma because you were physically present in Oklahoma with an intent to establish your primary residence there.

- 9. I am a nurse with a multistate license and residency in South Carolina (a compact state). I accepted a temporary travel assignment in Delaware (a compact state). I will rent an apartment in Delaware for the 12-week assignment. After this, I may return to my primary state of residence, South Carolina or I may take another travel assignment. How does the 60-day rule apply to me and do I have to apply for a Delaware license?**

The 60-day rule does not apply to you because you are not changing your primary state of residence (i.e., you are not relocating to Delaware permanently). Therefore, you do not need to apply for a Delaware license.

- 10. I am a nurse with a multistate license and residency in South Carolina (a compact state). I accepted a temporary travel assignment in Delaware (a compact state). At the end of my twelve-week travel assignment, I decided to accept a permanent position at this hospital in Delaware. Do I need to apply for a Delaware license and when does my 60-days begin?**

The sixty days would start on the date that you accepted the permanent position, because you are already physically residing in Delaware and have now decided that Delaware is your new primary state of residence.

- 11. I am a nurse with a multistate license and residency in South Dakota (a compact state). I will permanently relocate to Tennessee (a compact state) next month due to an employment opportunity my spouse has. I do not plan to practice as a nurse in Tennessee for the foreseeable future while I am a caregiver for my parents. Does the 60-day rule require me to apply for a Tennessee license in my case?**

No, you do not need to apply for a new license in Tennessee since you will not be practicing. However, you must notify South Dakota Board of Nursing of your change of residence and your new address. South Dakota Board of Nursing will change your South Dakota multistate license to a single state license valid in South Dakota only.

- 12. I am a nurse employed by the Veterans Administration (VA) in Kentucky. I am relocating to Georgia where I will also be employed by the VA. I hold a single state New York license. Does this rule apply to me and am I required to apply for a Georgia compact license?**



No, the 60-day rule does not apply to you in this case. Due to the federal supremacy clause, since you are employed by the VA you are only required to hold a single state license in any state in your role with the VA. However, if you wish to obtain a multistate license, you may only apply and be issued this license in a compact state which is your primary state of residence. If after being issued a multistate license, you were to change your primary state of residence to another compact state and wished to continue to hold a multistate license, then you would be bound to the 60-day rule.

(The above scenario not only applies to employees of the VA but also to other federal employers such as the military.)

**13. I am a military spouse with a multistate license and residency in North Carolina (a compact state). My military family has been stationed in Texas (a compact state) for two years. How does the 60-day rule apply to me and do I need to apply for a Texas multistate license?**

You are able to practice in Texas under the North Carolina multistate license as long as you maintain legal residency in North Carolina during your time in Texas. Therefore, you do not need to apply for a multistate license in Texas. (Keep in mind that if you were to take an action such as obtaining a Texas driver's license or registering to vote in Texas, the impact of this makes Texas your new legal state of residency. Texas then replaces North Carolina as your legal state of residency. That signifies the need for you to apply for a Texas multistate license.)

However, after being stationed in Texas for several years, should your family be ordered to a base in Maryland (a compact state) for example, for several more years, in a similar way, you would practice in Maryland under the North Carolina multistate license which you would continue to renew while maintaining North Carolina as your state of legal residency.

In the event that your family is stationed in a non-compact state, then you would need to obtain a license by endorsement with that state in order to practice there. The above assumes that as a military spouse you are practicing in a civilian capacity and not a federal capacity. Nevertheless, while your family is temporarily stationed in the non-compact state, you may choose to continue to maintain North Carolina as your legal state of residency.

**14. I am in a leadership role at a nurse staffing agency. How does this rule impact travel nurses who do not change their primary state of residence when practicing in a compact state, as they are only there temporarily?**

This rule pertains to nurses who change their permanent primary state of residency from one compact state to another compact state. Since travel nurses usually practice in another compact state temporarily, this rule would not apply to them as long as they do not take actions that would make the temporary state their new primary state of residence for legal purposes. Obtaining a driver's license or registering to vote in the temporary state would effectively change a nurse's PSOR.

**15. I am a travel nurse with a compact license. I usually work 13-week travel assignments in compact states. Does this rule mean that I must obtain a new compact license in the state where I work temporarily, because the assignment is longer than 60 days?**

No. This rule pertains to nurses who change their permanent primary state of residency from one compact state to another compact state. In your case, you are practicing in another NLC state temporarily, and are not declaring the temporary state as your permanent state of residency. Therefore, this rule does not apply to you.